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Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

Working paper submitted by Algeria entitled "Draft understanding on the modalities of attendance of non-governmental organizations at the sessions of the Preparatory Committee as well as at the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects"

The Preparatory Committee,

Recalling paragraph 4 of resolution 54/54 V adopted by the General Assembly on 15 December 1999,

(a) Decides, with respect to the attendance of non-governmental organizations in the sessions of the Preparatory Committee and the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, that attendance should be open to non-governmental organizations relevant and competent as regards the scope and the purpose of the Conference, provided that requests for accreditation are accompanied by information on the organization, including the following to be submitted by (date):

(i) The purpose of the organization;

(ii) Information identifying the programmes and activities of the organization in areas relevant to the scope of the Conference;

(iii) Confirmation of the activities of the organization at the national, regional or international level;

(iv) Copies of annual or other reports of the organization, with financial statements and a list of financial sources and contributions, including governmental contributions;

(v) A copy of the constitution and/or by-laws of the Organization;

(vi) Any other information that may help the Preparatory Committee take a decision on the application, bearing in mind the scope of the Conference;

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(b) Also decides that non-governmental organizations may attend the meetings of the Preparatory Committee and the Conference, other than those designated as closed, in the public galleries provided for such a purpose;

(c) Further decides that one meeting will be allocated to non-governmental organizations to address the Preparatory Committee and the Conference on illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, with no other meeting being held during the time of that meeting;

(d) Decides that, at their own expense, non-governmental organizations may provide material to the delegations, outside the Conference room, in the area of the Preparatory Committee as well as the Conference. At their request, documents related to the Conference and the Preparatory Committee will be provided;

(e) Also decides that the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee should submit by (date) to the members of the Preparatory Committee a list of the non-governmental organizations that submitted their applications for approval. Members of the Preparatory Committee will have until (date) to decide on a no-objection basis regarding the attendance of these non-governmental organizations.